रंगमंचकर्मी अहमदाबाद से बिहार जा रहे थे और उन्हें ट्रेन में पीटा गया । अब रेल मंत्री भी बिहार के है और उनकी सरकार भी बिहार में है इसलिए कम से कम आप तो यह आश्वासन देंगे कि अब बिहार में रेलवे में कोई क्राइम नहीं होगा।

प्रो. राम देव भंडारी : उत्तर प्रदेश में प्रधान मंत्री के रिश्तेदार को मार डाला गया ....(**व्यवधान**)....

श्री अमर सिहं : अब दोनों जगह एक ही सरकार हो गई है, केन्द्र में भी और बिहार में भी। ....(**व्यवधान**)....

SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU. Sir, what is this? ...*(Interruptions)*... Sir, in our knowledge, there are only three Railway Ministers. Now, I find, there are four... *(Interruptions)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

Computerised reservations facility to encourage tourism

†68. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to provide the computerized reservation facility in cities in the country having importance from the tourism point of view; and

(b) if so, the names of cities in Uttaranchal where computerized reservation facility is proposed to be provided, keeping in view of the convenience of the tourists?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI LALU PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Provision of computerized reservation facilities across the country is a continuous process. The extant policy provides for extending these facilities to places of tourist importance as well, subject to availability of funds etc.

(b) Computerized reservation facilities have already been commissioned at 21 locations in Uttaranchal, out of which several locations have been provided with the facilities in view of their tourist importance. In addition, domputerized reservation facilities have been sanctioned at

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Ranikhet and Parmarthniketan at Rishikesh. Such facilities have also been proposed at Kausani and Uttarkashi in the current financial year.

Controlling prices of sugar

*71. SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced some changes in the commodity release mechanism from May 1, 2004 with regard to sugar pricing policy;

(b) whether the price of sugar which was being sold at Rs. 1115 per qunital, has risen by over Rs. 200 to Rs. 1321 per qunital in the past eight days;

(c) if so, what were other steps taken by Government to check the rise in prices of sugar; and

(d) the effect of the steps taken to control the prices of sugar?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) For the month of May, 2004, the Government had announced non-levy sugar quota of 16 lakh M.Ts which was more by 2.00 lakh M.Ts as compared to the quota released for April, 2004. The Government also stipulated that 50% of the allotted quota to each mill should be delivered/dispatched in each fortnight.

The ex-factory price of non-levy sugar in major States ranged between Rs. 1465-1645 per qunital in the first fortnight and between Rs. 1430-1645 per qunital in the second fortnight of May, 2004.

Checking the steel prices

*72. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:
SHRIMATI N.P DURGA:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) the plans Government have to achieve the set targeted capacity of 60 million tonnes by 2007 from the current level of 35 million tonnes.

(b) whether it is a fact that steel companies have hiked prices of steel by Rs. 1600/- per tonne in January, 2004;